

Duke, Daphne

2009-144C

220109

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:39 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: SafeLink

From: Alvin Steingold [mailto:amsteingold@hotmail.com]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 7:55 PM
To: Chairman.Fleming; ViceChairman.Howard; Commissioner.Wright; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Mitchell; Commissioner.Whitfield
Subject: SafeLink

Dear Commissioners:

If the advertisement in today's The State is to be believed the Public Service Commission is opposed to the Federal program SafeLink which provides cell phone service at no cost to low income persons. I have researched SafeLink and found that it does indeed provide such services and that it is being offered in a number of southern states.

Why is The Commission opposed? Apparently the company which will provide the service is not willing to pay into the State's Universal Service Fund. Given that we are talking about cell service for very-low income people, your demand strikes me as unreasonable. I also think the argument is a little specious.

I have read the list of members of your Advisory Committee. They all appear to be members of the establishment. There is not a single poor person on the list.

I think this USF contribution issue is a subterfuge to protect the carriers already doing business in South Carolina as well as one more way to keep Federal aid to the poor out of the state. I have never understood South Carolina's antipathy towards the poor. It is a very sad state of affairs.

Alvin Steingold
19 Landmark Dr.
Columbia, SC 29210
803-727-7040

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Duke, Daphne

2009-144C

220109

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:38 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: Thank you !!

From: JOYCE JACKSON [mailto:jjacwcola@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 6:54 PM
To: chairman.fleming@pac.sc.gov; Commissioner.Wright; commissioner.mitchess@psc.sc.gov; ViceChairman.Howard; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Whitfield; hsp@schouse.org; sju@scsenate.org
Subject: Thank you !!

Thank you all for standing up and saying NO to the SafeLink (free cell phone) program.

There is no "free" anything in this world and this program is yet another example. We all know "from whence cometh the money" to fund this program--from us the working (poor) taxpayers of this great USA.

Please stand your ground.

Respectfully,
Joyce N Jackson

Duke, Daphne

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:39 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: SafeLink - NO!

From: Peggy and Roy [mailto:burbage2995@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 7:30 PM
To: sju@scsenate.org
Cc: hsp@schouse.org; Chairman.Fleming; ViceChairman.Howard; Commissioner.Wright; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Mitchell; Commissioner.Whitfield
Subject: SafeLink - NO!

NO! South Carolina does NOT need SafeLink! The other states that have access to it are going along with the "give everything to everybody" programs that will wipe out the economy of our great nation and lead to our downfall. Please do whatever you can to STOP this trend - not encourage it.

Mrs. Peggy Burbage
1904 Cheltenham Lane
Columbia, SC 29223

Duke, Daphne

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:39 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: Safelink

From: toni jones [mailto:kbsmom81@yahoo.com]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 6:55 PM
To: Chairman.Fleming; ViceChairman.Howard; Commissioner.Wright; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Mitchell; Commissioner.Whitfield; hsp@schouse.org; sju@scsenate.org
Subject: Safelink

To Whom It Should Concern:

I am writing to you regarding the Safelink program that you are about to pass up. I understand that you and many other South Carolinians can afford a cell phone and minutes. Or does the government pay for your cell phone as a perk. Never mind! It really does not matter. Just know that you are one of the people who "have" and there are a lot of people today who are "have nots". People who used to work for a living but due to circumstances do not anymore. How about people with disabilities? Did you know or even care that many of them have a need for a cell phone but cannot afford it and if they have one then they do without something else vital such as diapers, food, and an other necessity. You probably think that they are making bad choices if they choose a cell phone over diapers(for themselves), food, and other necessities. Try needing a ride to a doctor appointment and you have to go to a neighbor to ask to use the phone for such a simple thing. Did you know that the person with a disability may be charged by that neighbor to use the phone. Hard to believe but it happens. How about an emergency? How about letting your family know if you are doing okay? That today was not as bad as yesterday? I know because I worked in the field and people let you see their troubles if you want to see them. Low income does not always mean "deadbeat". Do not let Safelink pass South Carolina because you think you know what's best for its people. You have to walk a mile in their shoes or do without a cell phone for a month then you may speak for the low income and the need for a cell phone. Yes, you will have people who will get over, but they are the few and they should not be counted more than the many. Accept the Safelink program for the people you serve and not your own preconceived notions of the low income. If you have never lived "low income" you can never truly understand it.

Toni Jones

Duke, Daphne

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:40 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: SafeLink

From: jbdevold@aol.com [mailto:jbdevold@aol.com]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 12:39 PM
To: Chairman.Fleming; ViceChairman.Howard; Commissioner.Wright; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Mitchell; Commissioner.Whitfield; hsp@schouse.org; sju@scsenate.org
Cc: Senator@DeMint.senate.gov; jbdevold@aol.com; rmcnulty33@optonline.net; PappaHarroff@aol.com; Ggs33@aol.com; joscarroll@usa.net; hru@carolina.rr.com; somersjohn@comcast.net; mmaner@sc.rr.com; rrodman@knoxy.net; Nick@kolossosprinting.com; edward.gormican@sbcglobal.net; carrdaddy@gmail.com; skippydodado@yahoo.com; donaldg66@comcast.net; RQUINN5733@aol.com; Lawscaddy@aol.com; jmnorton47@yahoo.com; donaldbisceglia@msn.com; Johnjohnson4000@aol.com; joe.stinnett@comcast.net; glynnturner@hotmail.com; rtuttila@earthlink.net; elbuffum@sccoast.net; cconway2361@hotmail.com; valentejoe@charter.net; leebesola@yahoo.com; egaboury6506@charter.net
Subject: SafeLink

Thank you for rejecting SafeLink. I was appalled when I read the advertisement in today's The State newspaper seeking support for giving "free" cell phones to low income people.

When will government ever stop these giveaways? Do the citizens of our great country need to vote out every politician before they get the word that we are fed up with these programs?

I noted that the 1/2 page advertisement was not signed by any group or organization....what does that tell us.

Again, thank you for doing your job, I only hope that the ensuing outrage over this SafeLink program will spread throughout the country and will be recinded by whomever in our federal government started it.

James B. DeVold
Citizen and Taxpayer

Duke, Daphne

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:40 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: SafeLink

From: aekadd@aol.com [mailto:aekadd@aol.com]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 11:15 AM
To: Chairman.Fleming; Commissioner.Wright; hsp@schouse.org; sju@scsenate.org; Commissioner.Mitchell; Commissioner.Whitfield; commissioner.hamilton@psc.sc.org; ViceChairman.Howard
Subject: SafeLink

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A STAND!

We as hard working taxpayers, are tired of supporting everybody else. We, too, struggle to survive, but we manage to do it on our own and without bleeding the government. We already provide free housing, utilities, transportation, etc to low income people that continue to stay on these benefits as a life long support system, rather than a short term transition period, as it was originally intended. They no longer will tolerate getting staples that they have to cook and provide for their family, boyfriends, etc. Now, they get a card on which they can buy ANYTHING they want from the grocery stores. I do not have that luxury because I have to budget my income. If these people are so low income, then how can they afford satellite television and high price vehicles, as you so see in passing public housing? We are only enabling these people to stay on benefits by giving them more and more freebies. I cannot envision how this SafeLink program will generate over \$1 billion a year in economic stimulus for South Carolina. This service would not be used for contacting many potential employers but more likely drug dealings, boyfriends, etc. Again, the government thinks we are stupid if we believe this or unless we count drugs dealings as economic stimulus. We cannot afford to continue to give, give, give. I SUPPORT YOU TO NOT PROVIDE SAFE LINK HERE IN SOUTH CAROLINA!

Amy K
aekadd@aol.com

Duke, Daphne

From: Purvis, Melissa
Sent: Tuesday, November 03, 2009 7:42 AM
To: Duke, Daphne
Subject: FW: I Oppose Federal SafeLink Program

From: Bill Glover [mailto:bglo2931@bellsouth.net]
Sent: Mon 11/2/2009 7:36 AM
To: Chairman.Fleming; ViceChairman.Howard; Commissioner.Wright; Commissioner.Mitchell; Chairman.Hamilton; Commissioner.Whitfield
Cc: hsp@schouse.org; sj@scsenate.org
Subject: I Oppose Federal SafeLink Program

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In reference to half page ad in today's State paper, I hope you as members of the PSC will continue to oppose this Federal Funded Program.

As stated in the ad, "It cost the state nothing"

Just where does this money come from? My Pocket, My Taxes
and as many, Federal program start, then State or Local governments end up funding them.

thanks for your consideration

Bill Glover
bglo2931@bellsouth.net
Camden, SC